(b) if so, the decision taken therein and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Kerala Government declared the State as drought-affected and brought the matter into the notice of Government;

(d) whether the recent announcement of Prime Minister exempting the agricultural debt and interest covers the farmers in Kerala; and

(e) if so, to what extent and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Kerala have declared the areas affected by drought and a Central Team is visiting the State for assessment of the drought situation.

(d) and (e) the special dispensation is for all the States affected by current drought. It will be pre-mature to give any indication at this stage as it will depend upon actual disbursement.

NAIS for drought-affected farmers in Andhra Pradesh

2383. SHRI N.R. DASARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount of money was disbursed under Crop Insurance Scheme to farmers who suffered heavy losses due to damage to their crops, caused by the recent drought in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the districts, the number of farmers affected and the extent of losses incurred by them; and

(c) the crop insurance money paid to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir Indemnity claims under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) are worked out on the basis of the yield data based on requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments received from the State Government. The last date for receipt of yield data from State Government of Andhra Pradesh for Kharif 2002 season is 31st January/ 31st March, 2003 for different crops.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.